

IVC gold disc: There is a beautiful gold roundel, 9.6 cm in diameter, in the al-Sabah collection, Kuwait. This important art object comes from the Mature Harappan period. It is published on page 65, **Splendours of the Ancient East, Antiquities from The al-Sabah Collection**, Kuwait museum. 2013: Thames & Hudson. Photographs are given at the end. . There are many silver cups from BMAC telling a lot about every day life there. This IVC gold disc is made probably around the same time as the gold objects (taurus bulls, bowl with lion, ...) of BMAC found in Quetta, Pakistan. The IVC gold disc symbolism is very meaningful and not random at all.

The description on page 65 reads,

"27. Gold disc with pairs of confronted zebu, buffalo, ibex,; attendants flanking a tree and an animal-headed standard; fish guinea fowl and bees.

Possibly Indus valley, late 3rd to early 2nd millennium BCE.

Diameter 9.6 cm

Fabricated from gold sheet worked in repousse and pierced; central roundel possibly originally inlaid. Inv. no. LNS 4573 J"

Iconography of the Indus-Vāṇi Civilization (IVC) gold roundel

- N. Ganesan

Some preliminary observations (Draft):

(1) We see an Arasa Maram (asvattha tree, ficus religiosa) with 5 leaves at the center

(at the top vertical radius of the circle)

(2) two bees buzzing (Bhrngaraja/aLiyarasu 'king-bee' bumblebees - JAB van Buitenan, K. Kartunnen)

(3) two Markhor goats

Markhor goat horns are exactly like in Kolli/Durga inside the fig tree seal,

<https://www.harappa.com/indus/34.html>

(4) wheat (?) crop near the goat (left side only), above the farmer & zebus.

(5) two Zebu bulls (tied to the Bodhi tree?),

(6) Farmer couple (or two males) near the zebus. Farmers seen touching the tails of their farm draught animals.

(7) Urial (mountain goat) - at the horizontal radii of the circle

https://x.com/naa_ganesan/status/1939978896297877837

Blanford Urial or Balochistan Urial (*Ovis orientalis blanfordi*)

See the Urial with single "script" sign of Makara-croc sign.

2024 find from Rakhigarhi

https://x.com/naa_ganesan/status/1873894714543366588

2024 excavations by Dr. S. K. Manjul's team have yielded a small seal of the Harappans from Rakhigarhi. It shows a Urial (mountain goat) with a single sign of the Indus script above the animal. The sign is the Makara Viṭaṅkar sign. See the photo of archaeologist, Arvin Manjul (w/o S. K. Manjul - they headed Sinauli chariot excavations too) holding the Urial seal with Croc sign.

(8) two Himalayan ibex

- These Himalayan ibex are seen at the base of the famous "Pashupati" seal also.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pashupati_seal

(9) Close to the Ibex (seen in the Mrgapati/Pasupati seal base), the Reed House of Indus boats.

Here the reed cabins denote the Makara-ViTaGkar deity's temple.

In the Indus script, we often see the Makara-ViTaGkar croc sign along with the Reed cabin (temple) together.

I have given 8 Indus seals, with script: Croc sign with his reed house (on the boat)

<https://archive.org/details/harappan-civ-the-hindu-dr-nganesan-essay/page/n3/mode/2up?view=theater>

Indus boats in the seals. Note the reed house I am talking about.

<https://www.harappa.com/blog/indus-boat-seal>

(10) two Fishes beneath the reed house of the Croc god/Pole star. Further proof that the reed cabin shown above is those the boats on rivers/sea which is the "temple" of Makara-ViTaGkar.

(11) two Water buffaloes or Taurus humpless bulls (Mesopotamia) - tied to the Standard.

(12) two Partridge birds which forage on the ground under the bushes. kaduvaali "no/little tail" in Tamil. Now, by metathesis, kavudaari.

The most important is the Standard. This invites comparison with the Unicorn Standards of IVC and Sumeria for which prof. A. Parpola's two papers on Unicorn seals should be read.

At the top of the standard, Markhor goat horns in a frontal view are shown. This is the same as in the Kolli/KoRRi/Durga fig deity seal

<https://www.harappa.com/blog/detailed-religious-scene-seal>

<https://www.harappa.com/content/plaides-seal>

Beneath the Markhor horns, we have Unicorn head in the Standard. Two of them in profile view, one on the left and one on the right. Note the Unicorn view is identical with those shown in Asko Parpola's two Unicorn papers. . Initial design of Unicorns come from Taurus bulls portrayal in Mesopotamia.

Finally, what is the Circle in the Center of the gold disc? It denotes the Pericarp of the Lotus. May be a nice gemstone was encrusted for this. Compare with:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Indus_Valley_Twin_Unicorns.jpg

<https://www.harappa.com/blog/unicorn-and-pipal-tree-seal>

Here, Lotus plant is the base, on top of which the pipal tree is shown. twin Unicorns also.

Also, compare with the similar design on Chanhua Daro jar - Pericarp of the Lotus with pipal leaves all around.

https://www.harappa.com/sites/default/files/styles/galleryformatter_slide/public/chanhu-daro-pot_0.jpg

<https://www.harappa.com/blog/great-jar-chanhu-daro>

No wonder, karNakam (pericarp of the Lotus) karNakI "Lakshmi" (an aspect of Durga) > kaNNaki (Cilampu epic's heroine)

In sum, the Unicorn standard in the gold disc and the accompanying imagery tells all about the Harappan religion

with the Kolli goddess as Pericarp of the Lotus in the Center along with the Reed cabin of the crocodile god on the sides.

Since this IVC gold plate is published, Art Historians would have vetted for its authenticity, its source and where they got it. The iconography says it really is ancient, as so many elements fit quite well with IVC art and culture. Contemporary folks would not design such a complex symbols. There are scientific methods for Dating Ancient Gold (Hope Kuwait museum has already done it):

(1) **Uranium-Thorium-Helium (U,Th-He) Dating:** This technique measures the decay of uranium and thorium into helium within the gold, providing an estimate of the time since the gold's last melting process.

(2) **Electrochemical Dating (Voltammetry of Immobilized Particles):** This method analyzes the corrosion clock and electrochemical responses of gold, allowing for age estimation by comparing it to calibrated samples of known ages.

would love to hear your comments,

N. Ganesan

naa.ganesan@gmail.com

My articles on IVC religion based on Astronomy, and its spread

https://x.com/naa_ganesan/status/1911919827746431161

٢٧. قرص من الذهب عليه زخارف على شكل
أرواح من بقر، وجاموس، ووعول متقابلة،
وبعض الشخصيات على جانبي شجرة،
وصولجان ينتهي برأس حيوان، وأسماك،
وطيور، ونحل.
ربما وادي السند، نهاية الألفية الثالثة وبداية الألفية
الثانية ق.م.
القطر: ٩,٦ سم

صنع من لوح من الذهب، وشكل بالطرق النافر والثقب.
ربما كانت الدائرة الوسطى في الأصل مرصعة
LNS 4573 J

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روائع الشرق القديم

تحف أثرية من مجموعة الصباح

SPLENDORS OF THE ANCIENT EAST

Antiquities from The al-Sabah Collection

Authors

Martha L. Carter

Sidney Goldstein

Prudence O. Harper

Trudy S. Kawami

Pieter Meyers

Edited by



دار الصباح
Dar al-Ath
Collection



Thames & Hudson



From Facebook page of Binoy K. Behl, 30 May 2013.